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SHIITE LEADER ACCUSES ISRAEL, UNITED STATES IN CAR BOMBING
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BEIRUT, LEBANON

Shiite Moslem spiritual leader Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah on Friday said U.S. and Israeli intelligence agencies were behind five car-bomb attacks in Beirut and Tripoli this month that killed more than 140 people.

Fadlallah, considered by many to be the spiritual guide of the radical pro-Iranian Hezbollah, or Party of God, said in a sermon that the bombers "are a gang trained by America and Israel."

"All the bombings ... are being guided by one hand connected with the American, Israeli, Lebanese and Phalange intelligence," he said, referring to President Amin Gemayel's right-wing Christian Phalange Party.

Druse leader Walid Jumblatt on Friday ruled out peace talks with Christians and accused Gemayel of masterminding the bombings and starting the 12 days of fierce shelling that has killed more than 320 Christians and Moslems.

Friday's accusations did little to cool sectarian passions and there was new fighting in Beirut and Tripoli in which police reported four people killed. Hezbollah is believed to be connected to last June's hijacking of an TWA jetliner and the holding of 39 American passengers hostage for 17 days.

Fadlallah survived a car bombing in the Shiite suburb of Bir el-Abed on March 8 that killed 80 people. He blamed the Americans. The Washington Post recently reported that a Lebanese unit trained by the Central Intelligence Agency carried out the bombing.

Jumblatt, Lebanon's Tourism and Transport Minister, denounced Gemayel after meeting with Mustafa Saad, leader of the Popular Nasserite militia in Sidon, 25 miles south of Beirut.

"The agents of the authority are always trying to disrupt things by having the Lebanese army send explosive presents or by bombarding (west) Beirut," Jumblatt said.

The five car bombings - two in Christian areas and three in Moslem districts triggered a 12-day bombardment of residential neighborhoods on both sides of Beirut.

Police said more than 200 people were killed and hundreds wounded in the shelling. During the fighting between militias, Christian units of the Lebanese Army shelled Moslem areas.

Jumblatt, who heads the powerful 6,000-strong Druse militia, told reporters in Sidon that a "political solution with the fascist forces is impossible."

Jumblatt has repeatedly called for Gemayel's ouster. His militiamen clash almost daily with army units loyal to Gemayel in hills east of Beirut.

They fought Friday with tanks, rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns around the ruined army-held village of Souk el-Gharb in the hills overlooking Gemayel's palace in suburban Baabda.

Christian and Moslem militias traded rocket-propelled grenade and machine gun fire across Beirut's Green Line that splits the capital.

Police said one civilian was killed and two others wounded in the exchanges. Two soldiers were killed and two others wounded when their checkpoint was caught in the cross fire, police added.